



DUNSTABLE

Middlesex County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Dunstable is a rural community located just south of the Nashua, New Hampshire border which encompasses a little over 17 square miles. Besides Nashua, Dunstable is also bordered by Hollis, New Hampshire at its northwest edge. Pepperell to the west, Tyngsborough to the east and Groton to the south. The majority of the town is zoned single family and farming with an estimated population count of under 2,300 people spread out among some 840 households.

There are two small neighborhood variety stores, one with gas pump facilities, located within the town, both having limited operating hours. A major shopping excursion would probably be to the Pheasant Lane Mall or one of the smaller shopping plazas located on Daniel Webster Highway in Nashua, New Hampshire, one exit north on Route 3, or to one of the other shopping centers in neighboring towns.

The services in town are very limited with no taxi, bus service or train access available.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northern Massachusetts, bordered Nashua, New Hampshire, on the north; Tyngsborough on the east and southeast; Groton on the south and southwest; and Pepperell on the west. Dunstable is about 9 miles west of Lowell, 25 miles northeast of Fitchburg, 34 miles northwest of Boston, and 235 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 16.74 sq. miles

Land Area: 16.55 sq. miles

Population: 2,236

Density: 135 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Bedford Station)

Normal temperature in January.....24.3°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Nashua South, Pepperell

Regional Planning Agency

Northern Middlesex

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Lowell



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 649-7271

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen
Executive Secretary
Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1673

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

| | Number | % | |
|-------------------|--------|------|---|
| Total Registered | 1,433 | | |
| Democrats | 298 | 20.8 | % |
| Republicans | 213 | 14.9 | % |
| Other parties | 0 | 0.0 | % |
| Unenrolled Voters | 922 | 64.3 | % |

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Dunstable town, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

| Subject | Number | Percent | Subject | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|--|--------|---------|
| Total population..... | 2,829 | 100.0 | HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE | | |
| SEX AND AGE | | | Total population..... | 2,829 | 100.0 |
| Male..... | 1,398 | 49.4 | Hispanic or Latino (of any race)..... | 15 | 0.5 |
| Female..... | 1,431 | 50.6 | Mexican..... | 1 | - |
| Under 5 years..... | 236 | 8.3 | Puerto Rican..... | 2 | 0.1 |
| 5 to 9 years..... | 260 | 9.2 | Cuban..... | 4 | 0.1 |
| 10 to 14 years..... | 250 | 8.8 | Other Hispanic or Latino..... | 8 | 0.3 |
| 15 to 19 years..... | 179 | 6.3 | Not Hispanic or Latino..... | 2,814 | 99.5 |
| 20 to 24 years..... | 81 | 2.9 | White alone..... | 2,746 | 97.1 |
| 25 to 34 years..... | 280 | 9.9 | RELATIONSHIP | | |
| 35 to 44 years..... | 609 | 21.5 | Total population..... | 2,829 | 100.0 |
| 45 to 54 years..... | 460 | 16.3 | In households..... | 2,829 | 100.0 |
| 55 to 59 years..... | 179 | 6.3 | Householder..... | 923 | 32.6 |
| 60 to 64 years..... | 102 | 3.6 | Spouse..... | 708 | 25.0 |
| 65 to 74 years..... | 121 | 4.3 | Child..... | 1,047 | 37.0 |
| 75 to 84 years..... | 58 | 2.1 | Own child under 18 years..... | 846 | 29.9 |
| 85 years and over..... | 14 | 0.5 | Other relatives..... | 91 | 3.2 |
| Median age (years)..... | 37.3 | (X) | Under 18 years..... | 30 | 1.1 |
| 18 years and over..... | 1,948 | 68.9 | Nonrelatives..... | 60 | 2.1 |
| Male..... | 940 | 33.2 | Unmarried partner..... | 36 | 1.3 |
| Female..... | 1,008 | 35.6 | In group quarters..... | - | - |
| 21 years and over..... | 1,883 | 66.6 | Institutionalized population..... | - | - |
| 62 years and over..... | 249 | 8.8 | Noninstitutionalized population..... | - | - |
| 65 years and over..... | 193 | 6.8 | HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE | | |
| Male..... | 93 | 3.3 | Total households..... | 923 | 100.0 |
| Female..... | 100 | 3.5 | Family households (families)..... | 798 | 86.5 |
| RACE | | | With own children under 18 years..... | 438 | 47.5 |
| One race..... | 2,807 | 99.2 | Married-couple family..... | 708 | 76.7 |
| White..... | 2,758 | 97.5 | With own children under 18 years..... | 391 | 42.4 |
| Black or African American..... | 3 | 0.1 | Female householder, no husband present..... | 66 | 7.2 |
| American Indian and Alaska Native..... | 1 | - | With own children under 18 years..... | 34 | 3.7 |
| Asian..... | 43 | 1.5 | Nonfamily households..... | 125 | 13.5 |
| Asian Indian..... | 1 | - | Householder living alone..... | 95 | 10.3 |
| Chinese..... | 10 | 0.4 | Householder 65 years and over..... | 34 | 3.7 |
| Filipino..... | 5 | 0.2 | Households with individuals under 18 years..... | 458 | 49.6 |
| Japanese..... | - | - | Households with individuals 65 years and over..... | 145 | 15.7 |
| Korean..... | 13 | 0.5 | Average household size..... | 3.07 | (X) |
| Vietnamese..... | 9 | 0.3 | Average family size..... | 3.31 | (X) |
| Other Asian ¹ | 5 | 0.2 | HOUSING OCCUPANCY | | |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander..... | - | - | Total housing units..... | 944 | 100.0 |
| Native Hawaiian..... | - | - | Occupied housing units..... | 923 | 97.8 |
| Guamanian or Chamorro..... | - | - | Vacant housing units..... | 21 | 2.2 |
| Samoa..... | - | - | For seasonal, recreational, or | | |
| Other Pacific Islander ² | - | - | occasional use..... | 11 | 1.2 |
| Some other race..... | 2 | 0.1 | Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)..... | 0.2 | (X) |
| Two or more races..... | 22 | 0.8 | Rental vacancy rate (percent)..... | 6.1 | (X) |
| Race alone or in combination with one | | | HOUSING TENURE | | |
| or more other races: ³ | | | Occupied housing units..... | 923 | 100.0 |
| White..... | 2,779 | 98.2 | Owner-occupied housing units..... | 861 | 93.3 |
| Black or African American..... | 8 | 0.3 | Renter-occupied housing units..... | 62 | 6.7 |
| American Indian and Alaska Native..... | 6 | 0.2 | Average household size of owner-occupied units..... | 3.10 | (X) |
| Asian..... | 54 | 1.9 | Average household size of renter-occupied units..... | 2.53 | (X) |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander..... | - | - | | | |
| Some other race..... | 4 | 0.1 | | | |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP): 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The development of transportation resources in the Merrimack River Valley, where Dunstable is situated, was shaped by the history of the region as a major site of American industrial development in the nineteenth century. The area has exceptionally good highway and rail facilities linking the major cities and towns to each other and to the port, airport, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 113 and U.S. Route 3, which is easily accessible in the neighboring town of Tyngsborough.

Rail

Dunstable has no freight or passenger rail service, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Dunstable is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.